

ABSTRACT

5 A method of transporting a packet oriented client signal which uses a
buffer-to-buffer flow control mechanism over a synchronous transmission
network by assigning an arbitrary synchronous payload, where the
synchronous payload bandwidth may be significantly smaller than the full
bandwidth of the client signal. Flow control over the synchronous network
is provided by the buffer-to-buffer flow control mechanism of the client
signal to automatically regulate the data throughput to ensure no data can
be lost. The method is independent of the Client Signal Data Rate and the
10 provisioned SDH/SONET bandwidth, and SDH/SONET payload which
may be non-concatenated, contiguously concatenated, or virtually
concatenated . In particular, the method may be used to support the
transport of Fibre Channel (1G, 2G and 4G), and ESCON (200M) in a
synchronous payload.

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Figure 4A